

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 DACCA 01091 120936 Z

11

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 IO-13 T-03 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09

H-02 INR-09 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01

SS-14 USIA-12 EUR-25 RSR-01 /120 W
----- 027315

R 120838 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY DACCA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9069

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE DACCA 1091

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PINT, PINS, BG

SUBJECT: LAW AND ORDER SITUATION IN BANGLADESH

1. WHILE A. L. LEADERS AND RANK AND RILE CONTINUE
GARLAND AND CONGRATULATE SHEIKH MUJIB ON ELECTION
VICTORY, GOVERNMENT HAS MOVED ON TWO FRONTS TO
IMPROVE LAW AND ORDER SITUATION. FIRST ACT
ANNOUNCED MARCH 12 WAS TO AMEND PRESIDENTIAL SCHEDULE
OFFENSES ORDER TO COVER NEW LIST OF OFFENSES AND
INCREASE PENALTIES, PARTICULARLY FOR CRIMES
COMMITTED WHILE USING FIREARMS OR EXPLOSIVE MATERIAL.
PRESIDENTIAL ORDER AS ORIGINALLY ISSUED SET UP
SPECIAL TRIBUNALS TO TRY COLLABORATORS AND OTHER
OFFENDERS OUTSIDE REGULAR LAW COURT SYSTEM. SCOPE
OF ORDER GREATLY EXPANDED AND NOW INCLUDES SUCH
OFFENSES AS ROBBERY, DACOITY, HIJACKING, KIDNAPPING,
ADULTERATION OF FOOD OR DRUGS AND OFFENSES AGAINST
FOREIGN EXCHANGE REGULATIONS. MOREOVER, AMENDED ORDER
GIVES INCREASED POWERS TO SUB- DIVISIONAL MAGISTRATES
WHICH IN EFFECT ALLOWS THEM TO HOLD SUMMARY TRIALS.
SECOND MOVE IS RENEWED DEMAND BY PRIMIN TO SURRENDER
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 DACCA 01091 120936 Z

ILLEGAL ARMS. MARCH 20 HAS BEEN SET AS FINAL DATE FOR SURRENDER.

(COMMENT: SUCH AN APPEAL WAS MADE APPROXIMATELY A YEAR AGO AND CEREMONIAL SURRENDER OCCURRED IN DACCA CITY IN PRESENCE OF PRIMIN. AT THAT TIME IT WAS CLAIMED OBVIOUSLY ERRONEOUSLY THAT 80-90 PERCENT OF ALL ARMS HAD BEEN SURRENDERED. OBSERVERS THEN FELT THAT 50 PERCENT WAS THE HIGHEST FIGURE. SUBSEQUENT SERIES OF ARMED ROBBERIES THROUGHOUT COUNTRY IN PAST YEAR INDICATES THAN MANY ARMS STILL FLOATING AROUND.)

2. SUPPORTING GOVERNMENT MOVES ON POLITICAL FRONT AWAMI JUBO (YOUTH) LEAGUE HELD MASS MEETING ON MARCH 9 TO ANNOUNCE BEGINNING OF PURIFICATION CAMPAIGN AIMED AT ALL MANNER OF MISCREANTS BUT WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO CORRUPT AND/ OR PAKISTANI ORIENTED (WHO ACCORDING TO MONI STILL LURK IN ADMINISTRATION) OFFICIALS, BLACKMARKETEERS AND POSSESSORS OF ILLEGAL ARMS. MEETING PRESIDED OVER BY SHEIKH FAZLUL HUQ MONI (PRIMIN' S NEPHEW) AND WAS ALSO ADDRESSED BY OTHER AWAMI LEAGUE STALWARTS SUCH AS TOFAEL AHMED (POLITICAL SECRETARY TO PRIMIN), ABDUR RAZZAQ (CHIEF A. L. VOLUNTEERS) AND NUR- E- ALAM SIDDIQUI, NEWLY ELECTED MNA. ACCORDING TO MONI CAMPAIGN WILL BE LAUNCHED MARCH 21, THE DAY AFTER DEADLINE FOR SURRENDER OF ARMS.

3. COMMENT: GOVERNMENT APPARENTLY CONCERNED BY CONTINUING WAVE OF ARMED CRIMES AND DETERMINED TO CURB SITUATION. POSSIBLE ALSO THAT GOVERNMENT FEARFUL OF POST- ELECTION VIOLENCE AS ATTEMPTS MADE TO SETTLE SCORES OF DISGRUNTLED CANDIDATES CLAIMING UNFAIR ELECTION TACTICS BY AWAMI LEAGUE. JUBO LEAGUE CAMPAIGN OBVIOUSLY DESIGNED SUPPORT OFFICIAL ACTIONS ON POLITICAL FRONT. EXTENT TO WHICH CAMPAIGN WILL BE CARRIED OUT REMAINS TO BE SEEN. HOWEVER, NEW ATTACKS ON ALREADY WEAK BUREAUCRACY LIKELY TO FURTHER REDUCE EFFICIENCY OF GOVERNMENT.
NEWBERRY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 MAR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: worrelsw
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973DACCA01091
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: DACCA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730325/aaaahldp.tel
Line Count: 107
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: worrelsw
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 JUL 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23-Jul-2001 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <22-Aug-2001 by worrelsw>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> jms 971118
Subject: LAW AND ORDER SITUATION IN BANGLADESH
TAGS: PINS, PINT, BG
To: CALCUTTA
ISLAMABAD
LONDON
NEA
NEW DELHI
SECSTATE WASHDC
Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005